

statue depicting a Black man on his knees in front of President Lincoln fails to recognize African Americans' agency in pressing for their own emancipation.

Understandably, recently liberated African Americans during the Reconstruction era were grateful for any recognition of their freedom in a country where they still experienced virtually total exclusion from American life. However, even at the time of its unveiling, prominent Black Americans expressed their displeasure with the statue's design, including Frederick Douglass. During his keynote address at the statue's unveiling, Douglass pointedly did not praise the statue. Rather, in a letter to the editor of the National Republican a few days after the unveiling, Douglass expressed his dismay at the statue: "The negro here, though rising, is still on his knees and nude. What I want to see before I die is a monument representing the negro, not couchant on his knees like a four-footed animal, but erect on his feet like a man."

In 2020, Boston removed its replica of the statue and plans to place it in a publicly accessible location where it can be better contextualized. It is time for Congress to place the original statue in a museum, too.

I strongly urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. GREG PENCE

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 1, 2023*

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I am not recorded for Roll Call No. 95, Roll Call No. 96, Roll Call No. 97, Roll Call No. 98, Roll Call No. 99, and Roll Call No. 100 on Tuesday, January 31, 2023. Since my first day in office, I have been squarely focused on what I was sent here to do: Represent Hoosiers of the 6th Congressional District of Indiana. Since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, Congress and the State of Indiana have been laser focused on preventing the spread of COVID-19 and protecting the health of Hoosiers and all Americans. I am proud to have worked across the aisle to pass multiple bipartisan coronavirus relief bills that provided much needed assistance to Hoosiers and small businesses. Unfortunately, the Biden Administration has politicized the COVID-19 pandemic to implement their radical, leftist agenda through unilateral executive action.

I adamantly support H.R. 382, the Pandemic is over Act and H.R. 497, the Freedom for Health Care Workers Act. In September 2022, President Biden said the "pandemic is over," but subsequently decided to extend the Public Health Emergency (PHE) several more times. President Biden has abused the PHE to implement student loan cancellation absent congressional authority, keep students from school, and force vaccine and mask mandates. Regrettably, President Biden compounded workforce shortages by requiring vaccine mandates for federal health care workers, disproportionately hurting rural and underserved communities.

Had I been present I would have voted Yea on Roll Call No. 95 (the Previous Questions), Yea on Roll Call No. 96 (Adoption of H. Res. 75), Nay on Roll Call No. 97 (Motion to Re-

commit), Yea on Roll Call No. 98 (Final Passage of H.R. 497), Nay on Roll Call No. 99 (Motion to Recommit), and Yea on Roll Call No. 100 (Final Passage of H.R. 382).

#### REMEMBERING THE 1973 VASTER HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL TEAM

### HON. BRUCE WESTERMAN

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 1, 2023*

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember the 1973 Vaster High School Basketball Team. Vaster High School was in Moscow, Arkansas, in Jefferson County, and at the time, had a population of around 600 people. Although a small community and school, this team had tenacious grit in the State Overall Championship tournament.

Back in 1973, the State of Arkansas decided state champions through an overall state tournament instead of having a state champion by different classifications, as it does today. In a 3-day tournament, Class B Vaster beat Morrilton, a Class AA school on Thursday, then beat Conway, a Class AAA school on Friday, and on Saturday, Vaster faced the Class AAAA, defending state champion, Central High School from Little Rock. It was described as a David versus Goliath matchup going into the game, and everyone expected a blowout win for Central. In the end, Central won the game by only 1 point. Though a heartbreaking loss, Vaster had put itself on the map, had persevered, and exhibited pride in the school, the town, and in the Cinderella run with its first-year head coach and group of fantastic players.

There is an event today honoring the 50th Anniversary of Vasters runner-up bid, and while Vaster High School is no longer in existence, the memory of the School shall always be bright because of the 1973 team who fought Central High for the state title. I would like to finish with naming the members of the 1973 Vaster High School basketball team.

Herbert Pryor (Head Coach), Andrew Carr (Assistant Coach), Cleveland Allen, Erick Biley, Samuel Biley Jr., Reddic Barkins, Rodney Crawford, (Trainer), Jimmy Dade, Carl Evans, James Evans, Tommy Evans, Roy Franklin, Jimmy Gladney, Ronnie Grice (Manager), Homer Jackson, Melvin Jackson, Jacob Jones (Trainer), Charles Petty, Rodney Ryce, Thomas Tarty.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank those who have remembered and are celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the 1973 Vaster High School Basketball Team. These young men will forever be remembered in the history of Arkansas sports.

#### HONORING MASTER SERGEANT SILVA FOSTER UPON RECEIVING THE DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS

### HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 1, 2023*

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and commend Master Sergeant Silva

Foster of the 349th Air Mobility Wing upon receiving the Distinguished Flying Cross for his service, dedication, and sacrifice during Operation Allies Refuge. He exemplifies the best of America, and his tireless efforts guarantee the safety of all those who call America home.

Last year, the servicemembers of the 349th Air Mobility Wing met a challenge of colossal scale when they played a pivotal role in completing the drawdown of forces from Afghanistan. This command was critical in the largest noncombatant evacuation operation in known history, Operation Allies Refuge, ultimately saving over 124,000 lives. The 349th Air Mobility Wing directly supported the evacuation of nearly 13,000 Afghans while simultaneously managing the security and operations at Hamid Karzai International Airport. I have listened to countless stories from this group of brave men and women that exemplify the character, leadership, and bravery that is cultivated at Travis Air Force Base.

Service records only scratch the surface of the courageous actions performed by the 349th Air Mobility Wing. They put their hearts and lives on the line to save so many. These valiant servicemembers like Master Sergeant Silva Foster epitomize the values of courage and patriotism.

On behalf of a grateful country and all the constituents of California's Eighth Congressional District, I would like to congratulate Master Sergeant Silva Foster of the 349th Air Mobility Wing for receiving the Distinguished Flying Cross and extend my sincere gratitude for his sacrifice and contributions to the defense of this great country.

#### HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF MRS. BONNIE BELL MCGOWAN

### HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 1, 2023*

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Mrs. Bonnie Bell McGowan. A beloved member of our community, Mrs. McGowan's life was marked by her love for golf and her unwavering commitment to helping others achieve success through the game.

Shortly before she was born, Mrs. McGowan's parents began managing and operating Pine Needles Lodge and Golf Club. With their home situated on Pine Needles' 18th hole, Mrs. McGowan was heavily exposed to golf in her youth and quickly developed a love for the game. She went on to play at Pinecrest High School, Rollins College, and the University of North Carolina. While traveling with her husband, Pat McGowan, on the PGA tour, she became the president of the PGA Tour Wives Association in the mid-1980s. She later returned home to Pine Needles where she helped carry on her parents' business and worked as a golf instructor. She established her own legacy by becoming the face of Pine Needles and was well known for her thorough and dedicated coaching. In 2016, she became an assistant coach for the Sandhills Community College women's golf team. As proof of her love for the game and true desire to help all succeed on the course, she did not accept pay for her efforts and instead volunteered her time coaching the college team for 6 years. Mrs. McGowan was

also active with the Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA). She led The O'Neal School's FCA chapter for 10 years and supported the FCA Golf Ministry's initiatives in the golf industry.

Sadly, Mrs. McGowan passed away on January 12, 2023, due to complications associated with pancreatic cancer. My thoughts and prayers are with her family and all who knew and loved her. Mrs. McGowan's love for golf and commitment to teaching, supporting, and helping others represents the very best of our community. She leaves behind a remarkable legacy, and I join our entire community in gratitude as we honor her extraordinary life.

Mr. Speaker, please join me today in honoring the life and legacy of Mrs. Bonnie Bell McGowan.

#### HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF LARRY R. ROGERS, SR.

**HON. JONATHAN L. JACKSON**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 1, 2023*

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of attorney Larry R. Rogers, Sr. Chicago recently lost a powerhouse in the legal community, a dedicated leader in the civil rights fight, and a man who inspired me. America was a better place because Larry lived in it, and I am proud to recognize him in Congress.

As a native to the Roseland neighborhood in the south side of Chicago, Larry was raised by his mother who worked 2 jobs to support their family and pay for her children to attend Catholic school. Larry was inspired by her work ethic and commitment to a good education, which was evident in the path Larry pursued for himself.

After graduating college, Larry put his dreams on hold in order to provide for his own family. While working at 1 of his 3 jobs, Larry struck up a friendship with a customer at a gas station, which ultimately changed his life. Joe Power, a young attorney at the time, encouraged Larry to finish law school. Once he did, Joe recruited Larry to work at the law firm he was in at the time and the two eventually went on to found a personal law and medical malpractice firm, Power Rogers LLP.

Shortly after starting the law firm, it became evident that Larry was destined to be a lawyer. He secured multimillion-dollar verdicts and recoveries for his clients, including a record \$27 million product liability verdict against an infant formula company, which in 1985 was the largest personal injury verdict in Illinois history, and a \$55 million verdict for a brain-damaged woman, which is the largest medical malpractice verdict that went to judgment in Illinois history. In addition to this history-making victories in the courtroom, Larry also achieved historic victories for himself. He served as the first African American President of the Illinois Trial Lawyers Association, was the President of the Cook County Bar Association, and was awarded the John Paul Stevens Award, the Chicago Bar Association's highest and most prestigious award.

While these successes are worthy of mention, Larry's work was more than legal accomplishments. He was often a mentor to young lawyers by being a trailblazer when there

weren't many African American lawyers reaching the same heights as Larry so often did. Throughout his entire life, Larry understood the importance of helping others and advocating to those who needed it most, and that included supporting the young people at the start of their careers. Larry often told those who were new to the legal profession, "Work hard. Maintain your integrity and be willing to associate with others in your field. Get to meet them and learn from them whether the others are African Americans or whites or whatever their ethnic background may be." As I begin my service in Congress, and proudly represent the First District of Illinois, I will carry Larry's words with me and commit myself to helping those in need.

Larry's formidable legal career also had a profound impact on his son, Larry Rogers, Jr., who I am grateful to call a friend. I can see the generational impact of Larry Sr.'s work. Larry Jr. carries the mantle of his father's success, along with several other family members who have become lawyers. And while Larry Sr. has left this world, his spirit will remain as we continue to see the work being done by all of those he mentored, including his own children. Larry was a man who walked the corridors of power and never forgot those who are far too commonly left behind, and his influence will continue to be seen for generations to come.

Larry reached the heights of corporate success while carrying the compassion of the community he came from. In addition to his remarkable career, Larry Sr. was a champion for civil rights and remained a man who kept his heart and commitment with the people who needed it most. I also speak on behalf of my father, Rev. Jesse Jackson, who is grateful for Larry, Sr.'s friendship and dedication to equality throughout their relationship. Larry and my father often worked together, including at Rainbow/PUSH, and I know that we are better because of Larry's focus on social justice, both professionally and personally. The passing of Larry Rogers marks a significant loss for civil rights and a fighter for our community. My family will carry Larry's wisdom with us as the fight continues.

Above it all, Larry is remembered as a wonderful father, grandfather, and friend to those he left behind, including life partner Pam, his children and stepchildren Larry Jr., Dom, Ann Marie, and Frederic, and many grandchildren, sisters, brother, nieces, and nephews. Larry made life better for all of us and we thank God for blessing us with his presence. I hope memories of him serve as a blessing and provide comfort to all he knew.

#### RECOGNIZING DUNCAN CAMPBELL AND THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF FRIENDS OF THE CHILDREN

**HON. EARL BLUMENAUER**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 1, 2023*

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, I want to take the opportunity today to celebrate the accomplishments of Duncan Campbell who, in addition to being a business entrepreneur and a philanthropist, I am grateful to call a friend. Duncan is a pioneer in changing the way we help America's children and young people who

are facing the greatest challenges in life. Starting as a childcare worker for juvenile offenders and later working on the Governor's Children Agenda and serving as Chairman of the Multnomah County Juvenile Services Commission, Duncan has spent decades dedicated to the pursuit of improving the lives of children who are born into unfortunate circumstances. I especially want to highlight a program he created, Friends of the Children, which is celebrating its 30th anniversary this year.

Friends of the Children is a mentoring organization that enrolls children ages 4 to 6 who are facing the most extreme challenges, and provides them with salaried, professional mentors who meet with them every week through high school graduation. Each professional mentor, called a Friend, works with 8 to 10 children. Children spend 16 hours per month with their Friends, working to achieve a set of individualized goals that place them on a path to success.

The Friends model created by Duncan is now gaining national recognition as a solution to some of our greatest challenges, and I find it a privilege to advocate for it here in Congress. It can be used to prevent foster care placement and improve stability for children already in the system. Investing in paid, professional mentoring would reduce the burden on existing systems and increase the number of children receiving evidence-based services. The program has been carefully analyzed by a wide variety of experts. It works. It's extraordinarily successful, having grown into a national network of 30 cities.

Friends of the Children is a program unlike any other. It is the solution to breaking the cycle of poverty and trauma. With the intensity and duration to change life trajectories, it provides more equitable opportunities for youth experiencing trauma or living in extreme poverty. The Friends of the Children relationship-based service model addresses the needs of our country's most vulnerable youth, empowering them to move beyond their circumstances to become healthy, contributing citizens. I encourage my colleagues to partner with chapters that serve their constituents and hear more about how their communities benefit from this program.

I offer my congratulations to Duncan, on the work he's done these last 30 years and I look forward to working with him for years to come.

#### HONORING FIRST LIEUTENANT KYLE ANDERSON UPON RECEIVING THE DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS

**HON. JOHN GARAMENDI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 1, 2023*

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and commend First Lieutenant Kyle Anderson of the 349th Air Mobility Wing upon receiving the Distinguished Flying Cross for his service, dedication, and sacrifice during Operation Allies Refuge. He exemplifies the best of America, and his tireless efforts guarantee the safety of all those who call America home.

Last year, the servicemembers of the 349th Air Mobility Wing met a challenge of colossal scale when they played a pivotal role in completing the drawdown of forces from Afghanistan. This command was critical in the largest